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Scenes
on
Lake
Champlain

SCENES ON
LAKE CHAMPLAIN

MOST HISTORIC LAKE IN THE ANNALS OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

PUBLISHED BY W. G. HIBBARD
GLENS FALLS, N. Y.

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LAKE CHAMPLAIN greatly differs from Lake George, both in its size and scenic attractions. Its length, about 125 miles, and greatest width about 12 miles, make it three times larger than its sister lake. The contour of its shores is remarkable in the number and variety of beautiful bays, ranging in size from a few rods to several miles in extent, while its islands, although in most instances giants in size are, nevertheless, picturesque in their settings. The Green Mountains of Vermont, far inland, furnish the mountain scenery on the east side of the lake, the plain lying between them and the shore consisting of pretty villages and highly-cultivated farms. On the west, or New York shore, the mountain scenery is more pronounced, great outlines of the Adirondack Mountains, in some instances grandly reaching out to the lake in high rocky promontories, and in others gradually receding, leaving open places of delightfully picturesque surroundings. The early history of Lake Champlain show it to be the most historical lake in the annals of American history. Long before Samuel de Champlain saw the lake, which now bears his name, it was the scene of savage war between the Algonquin, Huron, and Indian tribes, and with the advent of the European races, and their bloody contention for the sovereignty of the newly discovered world, this lake for upwards of 200 years was constantly subjected to war. Since the close of these struggles Lake Champlain has steadily advanced, until today it is one of the leading summer resorts of America.



THE ruins of old Fort Ticonderoga, shown on opposite page, are among the most historically interesting of the scenes on Lake Champlain. Situated high above the lake, on ground surrounded on three sides by water, they occupy a most sightly and commanding view of the lake. In 1755, prior to the Revolutionary War, and during the struggles of the French and English for supremacy in the new world, the first of the fortifications of Ticonderoga were built by the French under General Montcalm, who successfully held the position against the English until 1759, when General Amherst with 12,000 men, captured the place, the French setting fire to the works and fleeing into Canada. Amherst at once rebuilt and enlarged the fort on a grand scale, but no further attempts to dislodge him were made, and the fortress up to the peace ratification of 1762, was neglected and sadly in need of repair, and when the Revolution broke out was held by only a handful of men, who were captured together with the fort by Ethan Allen, commanding a force of 83 "Green Mountain Boys". Stealthily entering a wicket gate Allen demanded the surrender of the fort "In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress". Again in 1777, the old fort was captured by General Burgoyne, commanding 7500 men, who from the top of Mt. Defiance, on the opposite shore, bombarded and destroyed it. Thus it will be seen that these crumbling walls stand representative of some of the bitterest contentions of early American history.



RUINS OF FORT TICONDEROGA



THE village of Crown Point, on the west shore of Lake Champlain, is the first landing made by the steamer after leaving Fort Ticonderoga. Crown Point has many attractive features, and its location is such as to afford very fine views of the lake. It has a population of about 2000. It is the gateway to Schroon Lake and other southern Adirondack points of interest. To the north of Crown Point village, about six miles, are the famous ruins of the Crown Point fortifications built by General Amherst in 1759. This old fortification is the best preserved of any of the ancient forts erected on the shores of the lake. It is said that Amherst built this fortification at a cost of ten millions of dollars. However that may be, we are inclined to question the veracity of the historical scribes who give us such figures, or possibly labor unions were stronger in those days than now. Fort St. Frederic in close proximity to the Crown Point ruins show but little, but were formerly of a rather weak nature. It was built in 1731, by authority of Louis XV, and named in honor of Frederic Maurepas, who at that time was Secretary of State. It consisted of a stone barracks, and a high bomb-proof tower, which were enclosed by a stone wall, and was equipped with a number of small cannon. It having been said that rich treasures had been hidden somewhere in the vicinity of Fort St. Frederic, prospectors in search of them, have dug up the grounds pretty thoroughly. But no evidence of their having found them has ever come to light.



CROWN POINT VILLAGE.



CROWN POINT LIGHT.

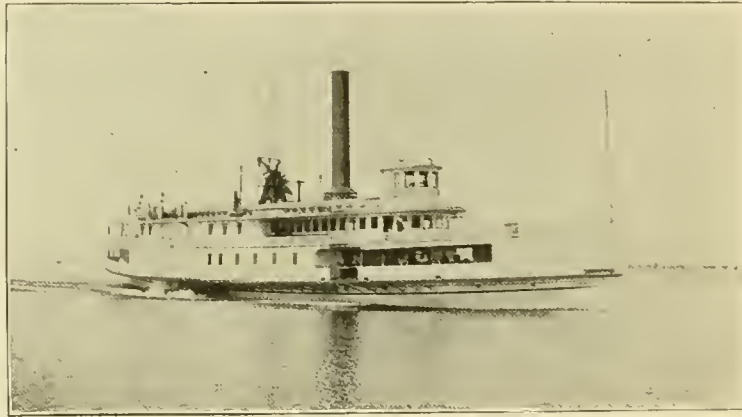


RUINS OF CROWN POINT FORTIFICATIONS.

THE steamboat service on Lake Champlain consists of three boats, the *Vermont*, *Chateaugay*, and *Maquam*. The *Vermont*, illustrated on opposite page, is a new steamer, and made her first season's run in 1903. This boat is the largest of the entire fleet of steamers operated by the Champlain Transportation Co. It is 262 feet in length, has a steel hull, and has a carrying capacity of 2500 persons.

There are fifty-six staterooms, each one equipped with electric lights, bells, and running water. The dinning cabin located on main deck is so arranged that patrons may dine in the same without losing sight of the passing scenery. The saloon is elaborately decorated and beautifully furnished. There are three decks. The

with every necessary convenience for the comfort of its passengers. It is lighted by electricity, including search-light, and during the cool months is heated by steam. This boat has the longest season of any on Lake Champlain, running from early spring until stopped by forming ice. During the summer months it runs between Westport, Burlington, Plattsburgh and St. Albans. The *Maquam* runs between Burlington and Maquam.



STEAMER CHATEAUGAY

third, or Hurricane deck being open to passengers, affording uninterrupted views in all directions of the passing scenery. The *Vermont* runs between Plattsburgh and Fort Ticonderoga daily. The *Chateaugay* is the second boat in size, and is a handsomely constructed steamer. She is 203 feet in length, has a steel hull, and is equipped



THE STEAMER VERMONT. Largest of the fleet.



AFTER leaving Crown Point the steamer heads for Port Henry, also on the west shore. Port Henry has a population of about 3000, and is a very pretty village, possessing not only a sightly location, commanding extensive views of Lake Champlain and the picturesque scenery of Vermont, but has within its boundries many attractive streets, fine residences and public buildings. The village is built upon ground high above the lake, gradually sloping to the water's edge. The Port Henry Iron Works is the chief industry of the place. The immense furnaces for reducing the ore being near the wharf. A railroad running to Mineville, seven miles, and 1300 feet above the lake, affords interesting excursions to many tourists, who annually visit the company's ore beds. Leaving Port Henry the next landing is made at Westport, picturesque in every feature, and overlooking from the high sloping ground upon which it is built, the loveliest views of Lake Champlain. Westport is the county seat of Essex county, and has about 1000 inhabitants. There are several churches, stores, etc., and a numer of fine residences. It is an important gateway to the Adirondack Mountains, via. Elizabethtown, seven miles distant, where connections are made for Keene Centre, Keene Valley, Cascade Lakes, North Elba, etc. Leaving Westport and rounding Split Rock, the steamer touches at Essex (a small, but pretty place), and then heads for Burlington, Vt., passing enroute, Juniper Island, a high precipitous elevation 40 feet above the surface of the lake.



PORT HENRY.



WESTPORT.—An Adirondack Gateway.



A PRECIPICE OF REMARKABLE BEAUTY. —On the West Shore.



ON THE BROAD LAKE.—Juniper Island



ON THE BROAD LAKE.—Rock Dunder.

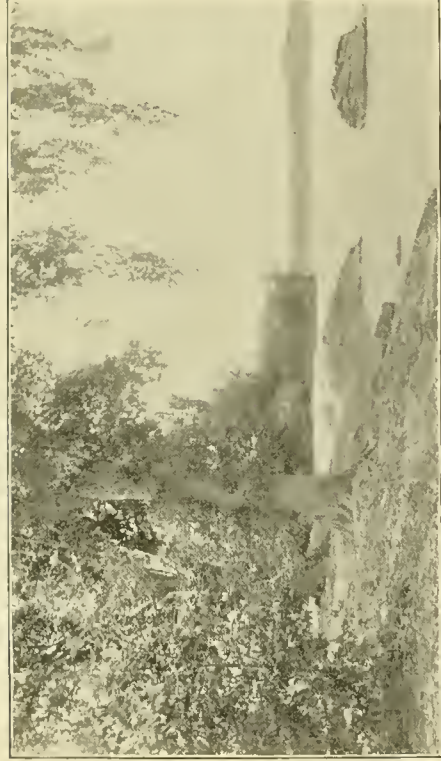


BURLINGTON, located on the east, or Vermont shore of Lake Champlain, is a city of some 20,000 inhabitants, and the largest in Vermont. It is a beautiful place, its pretty streets, fine residences, churches, public buildings, etc., being very attractive. There are several fine parks, one of which, Battery Park, located close to the shore, and about 100 feet above it, affords beautiful views of the lake, which from this point to Port Kent, on the opposite shore, is some ten miles in width. The University of Vermont, one of the finest public institutions in the state, and the pride of Burlington, is located on the highest ground of the city, College Hill, about 300 feet above the lake. Probably no institution of its kind occupies a more beautiful location. In front of the University stands a bronze statue of LaFayette, who laid the corner stone of the main building in 1825. This is said to be the only monument erected to the memory of this hero, in the country. The college grounds, embrace about fifty acres, and contain besides the main University, a medical college, and a fine library building—Billings Library—costing \$125,000. This library contains over 20,000 volumes, and under certain restrictions is accessible to the public, as is also the Park Art Gallery, the museum of which contains over 80,000 specimens. A magnificent monument, erected to the memory of Ethan Allen, one of the greatest heroes of Vermont state, yearly attracts hundreds to Green Mount Cemetery. The

monument is about 50 foot in heighth, and upon the base of its capital appears the word, "Ticonderoga," symbolizing the great event in his life when he demanded the surrender of Fort Ticonderoga "In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress". Burlington ranks high as a manufacturing place, and has some of the largest mills in the country for dressing lumber. The Champlain Transportation Co., operating the steamers on Lakes George and Champlain makes its headquarters at Burlington. An immense break-water several hundred feet in length, protects the city's wharfage from the rough water of the lake,



THE CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT.



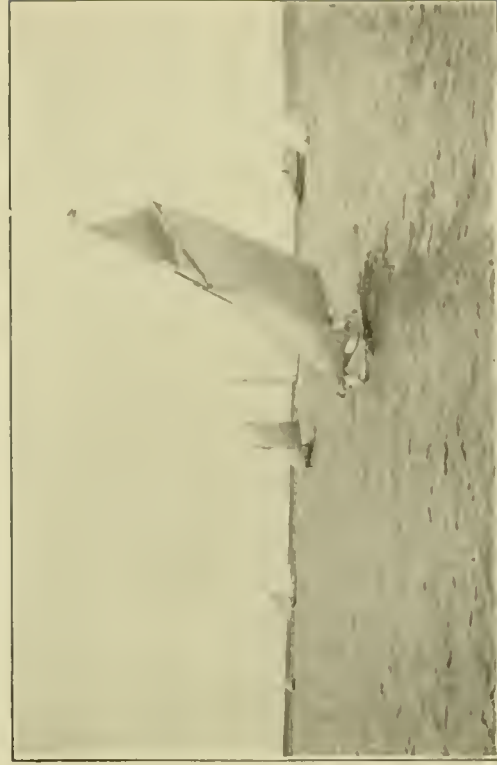
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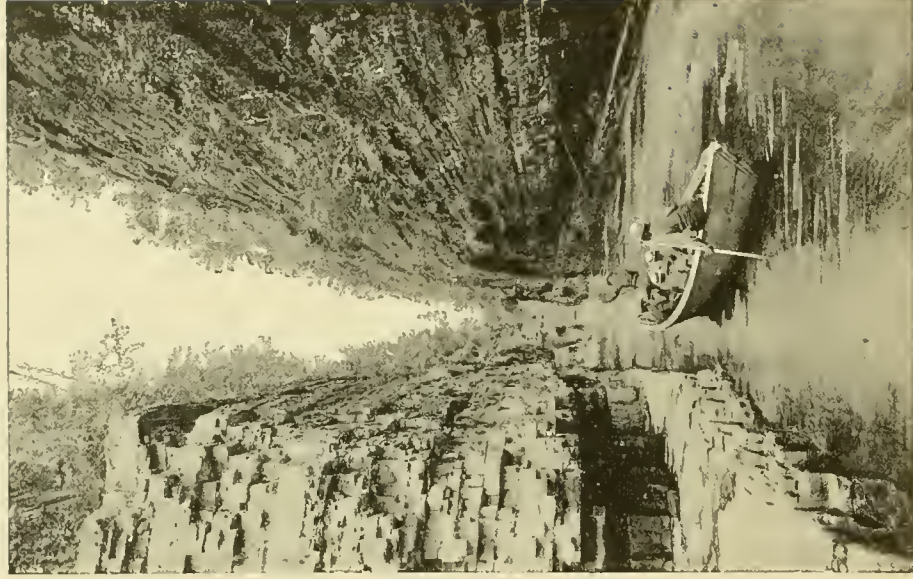
BLAIR'S POINT.



VALCOUR ISLAND AND LIGHT



YACHTING SCENES



AUSABLE CHASM.

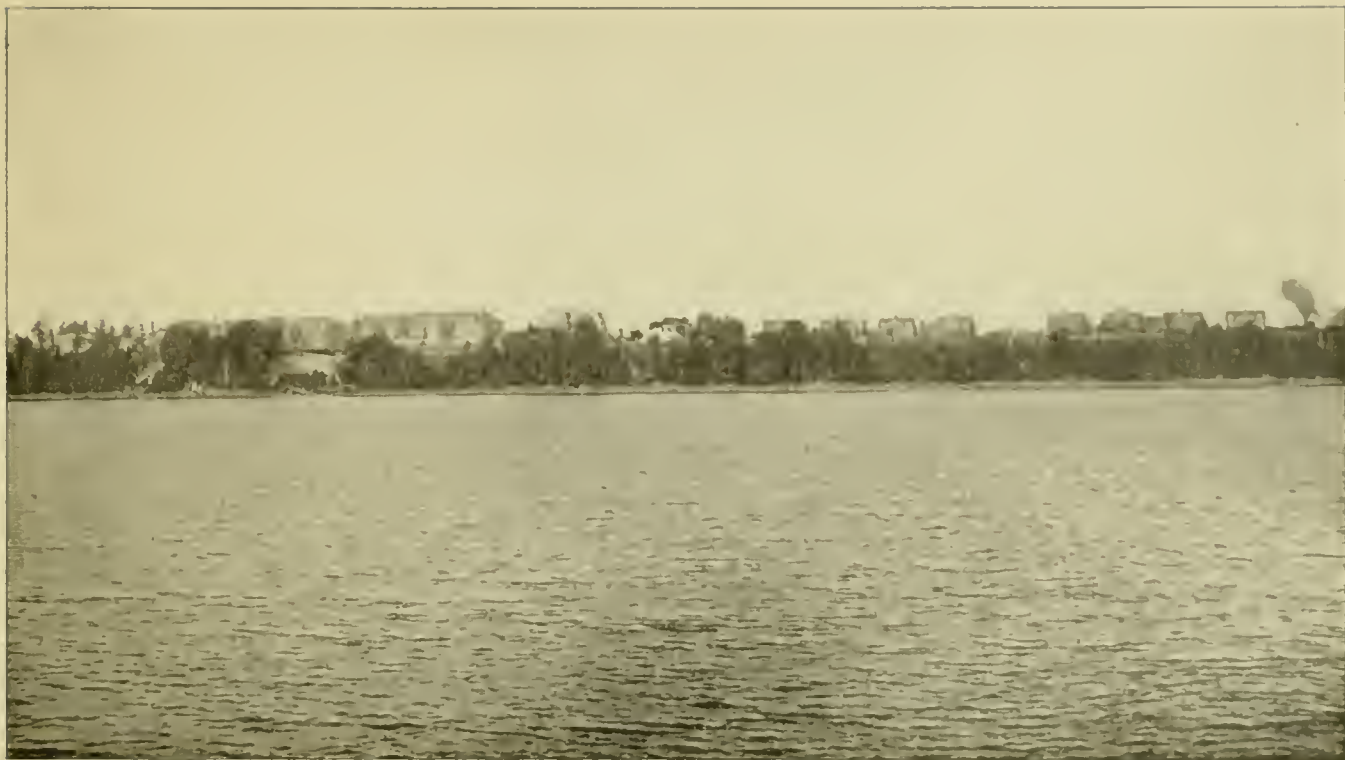
One of the most wonderful chasms in the world. It is about two miles in length, over one hundred feet deep, and varies from ten to sixty feet in width. It is formed by the Ausable River which, rising in the interior of the Adirondacks, rushes through this gigantic grotto, and then empties into Lake Champlain. The Chasm scenery is something grand to behold.



BOUND FOR PLATTSBURGH



LATTSBURGH, located on the New York shore of Lake Champlain, is a city of some ten thousand people. It is the county seat of Clinton county, and contains besides the county buildings, a number of fine churches and other public institutions and many fine residences. Considerable manufacturing is carried on, power for several industries being generated from the Saranac River which, winding its way out from the interior of the Adirondacks, courses through the city, which is built on both sides of the stream, and empties into Lake Champlain. Plattsburgh is the most important gateway to the Adirondacks, the Delaware & Hudson Railroad Co. operating splendid train service from Plattsburgh to Saranac Lake and Lake Placid, the road running through some of the finest scenery of which the Adirondacks are noted. Plattsburgh is also the terminus of the through-line steamers, making connections with Delaware & Hudson trains for Montreal. To ramble in, Plattsburgh affords some very fine walks and drives, and offers much that is historically interesting. In 1812 one of the fiercest battles ever fought on Lake Champlain, took place between British and American forces. This battle, won by the Americans, cost the British 2500 lives, and the loss of its naval fleet, the Americans suffering a loss of but 150. The remains of the old fortifications figuring in this engagement still show. The U. S. Military Barracks to the south of the city are quite extensive, a large force of infantry being stationed at this point all the year round.



U. S. MILITARY BARRACKS, —Plattsburgh



APPROACHING PLATTSBURGH.—The Breakwater.



A GLIMPSE OF SARANAC LAKE. The Adirondacks.

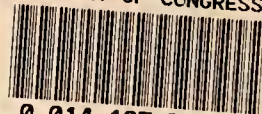


THE UNDERGROUND MAGAZINE OF FORT TICONDEROGA.

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